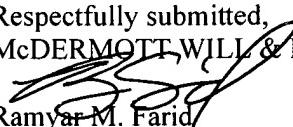


REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5, 6, 12 and 14-20 is acknowledged and appreciated. Accordingly, solely in order to expedite prosecution, rejected claims 3, 4 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice/disclaimer to the subject matter embodied thereby, leaving only allowable claims pending. It is therefore respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. **Further, it is noted that the Examiner has again not initialed the U.S. patents cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 2, 2004 (i.e., USP No.'s 6,546,059 and 6,344,772). A copy of the IDS and Request for Acknowledgement were submitted in Applicants' previous amendment filed on September 8, 2005. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner provide Applicants an initialed copy of the IDS indicating that each of the prior art references cited therein have been considered and made of record.**

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below. To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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